Appl. No. 09/981,900

Amdt. dated February 25, 2005

Reply to Office Action of December 03, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

-1(Previously Presented) -

A herbaceous transgenic plant which degrades lignocellulose when the transgenic plant is ground to produce a plant material comprising:

- (a) at least one DNA encoding a cellulase wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 10 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide wherein the signal peptide directs the cellulase to a plastid or apoplast of the transgenic plant; and
- (b) at least one DNA encoding a ligninase comprising a lignin peroxidase gene, wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 and SEQ ID NO: 13 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide wherein the signal peptide directs the ligninase

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to the plastid or apoplast of the transgenic plant,

wherein the transgenic plant degrades lignocellulose when ground to produce the plant material.

Claims 2-6 (Cancelled).

-7(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein the DNA encoding the cellulase and the DNA encoding the ligninase are each operably linked to a leaf-specific promoter.

-8 (Original) -

The transgenic plant of Claim 7 wherein the leaf-specific promoter is a promoter for rbcS.

-9(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the signal peptide encodes a signal peptide of rbcS.

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-10(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 8 or 9 wherein the rbcS comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

-11(Previously amended) -

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 selected from the group consisting of maize, wheat, barley, rye, hops, hemp, rice, potato, soybean, sorghum, sugarcane, clover, tobacco, alfalfa, and arabidopsis.

-12(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein the DNA encoding the cellulase and the DNA encoding the ligninase are stably integrated into nuclear or plastid DNA of the transgenic plant.

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-13(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein transgenic plant further includes a DNA encoding a selectable marker operably linked to a constitutive promoter.

-14(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 13 wherein the DNA encoding the selectable marker provides the transgenic plant with resistance to an antibiotic, an herbicide, or to environmental stress.

-15(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 14 wherein the DNA encoding resistance to the herbicide is a DNA encoding phosphinothricin acetyl transferase which confers resistance to the herbicide phosphinothricin. Claim 16(Cancelled)

-17 (Previously presented) -

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein the plastid of the transgenic plant is a chloroplast.

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Claims 18 to 46 (Cancelled).

-47 (Previously Presented) -

A method for producing a herbaceous transgenic plant which degrades lignocellulose when the transgenic plant is ground to produce a plant material comprising:

(a) providing a first transgenic plant which includes a DNA encoding a cellulase, wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences wherein the DNA encoding the cellulase is selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 10 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide wherein the signal peptide directs the cellulase to a plastid or apoplast of the transgenic plant a second transgenic plant which includes encoding a ligninase comprising a lignin peroxidase gene wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 and SEQ ID NO: 13 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide wherein the signal peptide directs the ligninase to the plastid or apoplast

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of the transgenic plant; and

(b) mating by sexual fertilization the first and the second transgenic plants to produce a third transgenic plant which includes the first DNA encoding the cellulase and the second DNA encoding the ligninase,

wherein the transgenic plant degrades the lignocellulose when ground to produce the plant material.

Claims 48-52 (Cancelled).

-53(Original)-

The method of Claim 47 wherein the DNA encoding the cellulase and the DNA encoding the ligninase are each operably linked to a leaf-specific promoter such as a promoter for rbcS.

-54(Original)-

The method of Claim 53 wherein the leaf-specific promoter is a promoter for rbcS.

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-55(Original)-

The method of Claim 47 wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the signal peptide encodes a signal peptide of rbcS.

-56(Original)-

The method of Claim 54 or 55 wherein the rbcS comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

-57 (Previously Presented) -

The method of Claim 47 selected from the group consisting of maize, wheat, barley, rye, hops, hemp, rice, potato, soybean, sorghum, sugarcane, clover, tobacco, alfalfa, and arabidopsis.

-58 (Original) -

The method of Claim 47 wherein the DNA encoding the cellulase and the DNA encoding the ligninase are stably integrated into nuclear or plastid DNA of the transgenic plant.

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-59(Original)-

The method of Claim 47 wherein the first, second, or both transgenic plants further includes a DNA encoding a selectable marker operably linked to a constitutive promoter.

-60(Original)-

The method of Claim 59 wherein the DNA encoding the selectable marker provides the transgenic plant with resistance to an antibiotic, an herbicide, or to environmental stress.

-61(Original)-

The method of Claim 60 wherein the DNA encoding resistance to the herbicide is a DNA encoding phosphinothricin acetyl transferase which confers resistance to the herbicide phosphinothricin.

Claim 62 (Cancelled)

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-63(Previously Presented) -

The method of Claim 47 wherein the plastid of the transgenic plant is a chloroplast.

-64(Original)-

The method of Claim 47 wherein progeny of the third transgenic plant are mated by sexual fertilization to a transgenic plant selected from the group consisting of the first, second, and third transgenic plants to produce a transgenic plant comprising multiples of genes encoding cellulases and ligninases.

-65 (Previously Presented) -

method for converting lignocellulose herbaceous plant material fermentable to sugars comprising:

providing a herbaceous transgenic plant which includes at least one DNA encoding a cellulase, wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 6, SEQ ID NO: 8 and SEQ ID NO: 10 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide

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wherein the signal peptide directs the cellulase to a plastid or apoplastid of the transgenic plant and a at least one DNA encoding a ligninase comprising a lignin peroxidase gene wherein this one DNA is comprised of DNA in sequences selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO: 11 and SEQ ID NO: 13 which is operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a signal peptide wherein the signal peptide directs the ligninase to the plastid or apoplastid of the transgenic plant;

- (b) growing the transgenic plant for a time sufficient for the transgenic plant to accumulate a sufficient amount of the cellulase and the ligninase in the plastid or apoplastid of the transgenic plant;
- (c) harvesting the transgenic plant which has accumulated the cellulase and ligninase in the plastid or apoplastid of the transgenic plant;
- (d) grinding the transgenic plant for a time sufficient to produce the plant material wherein the cellulase and ligninase produced by the transgenic plant are released from the plastid or apoplastid of the transgenic plant;
 - (e) incubating the plant material for a time

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sufficient for the cellulase and ligninase in the plant material to produce the fermentable sugars from the lignocellulose in the plant material; and

(f) extracting the fermentable sugars produced from the lignocellulose by the cellulase and the ligninase from the plant material.

Claims 66-70 (Cancelled).

-71(Original)-

The method of Claim 65 wherein DNA encoding the cellulase and the DNA encoding the ligninase are each operably linked to a leaf-specific promoter.

-72(Original)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 71 wherein the leaf-specific promoter is a promoter for rbcS.

-73(Original)-

The method of Claim 65 wherein the nucleotide sequence encoding the signal peptide encodes a signal peptide of rbcS.

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-74(Original)-

The method of Claim 72 or 73 wherein the rbcS comprises the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

-75 (Previously Presented) -

The method of Claim 65 selected from the group consisting of maize, wheat, barley, rye, hops, hemp, rice, potato, soybean, sorghum, sugarcane, clover, tobacco, alfalfa, and arabidopsis.

-76(Original)-

The method of Claim 65 wherein the first and second DNAs are stably integrated into nuclear or plastid DNA of the transgenic plant.

-77(Original)-

The method of Claim 65 wherein transgenic plant further includes a DNA encoding a selectable marker operably linked to a constitutive promoter.

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-78 (Original) -

The method of Claim 77 wherein the DNA encoding the selectable marker provides the transgenic plant with resistance to an antibiotic, an herbicide, or to environmental stress.

-79(Original)-

The method of Claim 78 wherein the DNA encoding resistance the herbicide is to а DNA encoding phosphinothricin acetyl transferase which confers resistance to the herbicide phosphinothricin.

Claim 80 (Cancelled)

-81(Previously Presented) -

The method of Claim 65 wherein the plastid of the transgenic plant is a chloroplast.

-82(Original)-

The method of Claim 65 wherein the plant material further includes a plant material made from a non-transgenic plant.

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Claims 83 - 99 (Cancelled)

-100(Previously Presented)-

The transgenic plant of Claim 1 wherein the lignocellulose is degraded to fermentable sugars.

Claim 101 (Cancelled).

-102(Original)-

The method of Claim 47 wherein the lignocellulose is degraded to fermentable sugars.

-103 (Original) -

The method of Claim 65 wherein the fermentable sugars are fermented to ethanol.

Claim 104 (Cancelled).